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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"After a careful consideration of the Committee's Report the Government accepted the findings of the Chairman of the Committee that the Jail staff had adequate justification for opening the fire, that it could not be said that excessive force was used and that it could not be said that it was possible to exercise any more restraint. There was, therefore, no question of any action being taken against the warders. That the warders did only what they should have done under the circumstances will also be seen from the observations of the members that the warders deserved great credit for their initiative and sense of duty, that if they had not shown initiative in opening fire and using force, the prisoners who belonged to the Communist Party might have gone out of control and broken loose and the habitual prisoners might have caught the infection and that the warders displayed commendable sense of duty by not running away and by staying on to face the situation."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—"May I know, Sir, the names of officers who were responsible for shooting the unarmed prisoners till the ammunition was finished and whether any cash rewards or promotions were given to such officers?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR:—"A separate question may be asked, Sir."

Formation of a Kerala Linguistic State.

* 22 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether the State Government have made any recommendation to the Central Government for the formation of a Kerala Linguistic State?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"The answer is in the negative."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—"Have the Government received reports of the strong feelings of the people of Kerala for the early formation of the Kerala State, and if so, what action the Government propose to take to fulfil the long-cherished demand of Kerala people?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"Without granting the premise, Sir, I may say that the question will be entirely and fully considered by the Government of India."

DR. K. B. MENON:—"May I know, Sir, what the policy of the Government now is in regard to the formation of linguistic States?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"This Government have no policy in respect of such large matters."

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SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" In view of the fact that the Andhra State is to be formed shortly, will the Government consider the formation of the Kerala State and recommend the same to the Central Government? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I would ask the hon. Member to send up the question to his comrades in New Delhi."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" May we take it that the opinion expressed by the Hon. Chief Minister on another occasion that the idea of linguistic States is tribal, is not the idea of the Madras Government? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" It is my own and personal idea and it continues."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" What is the view of the Cabinet not on the general policy of forming linguistic States, but about the formation of the Kerala State? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" As I said already, this Government does not propose to formulate opinions or policies on matters which are not within its province."

SRI KUNHI MUHAMED SHAFEE :—" Is it not a fact that this Government is concerned only with the district of Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Yes, Sir, that is a fact."

Amendment of the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act.

8-40 a.m. * 23 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum from M.L.As. of North Malabar urging the Government to amend the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act so as to make the provision relating to possessory mortgages applicable to the excluded taluks of North Malabar also; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir, Representations have been received from certain M.L.As. of North Malabar in December 1952 requesting that the provisions relating to usufructuary mortgages in section 9-A of the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1938, might be made applicable to mortgages in respect of the property situated in the South Kanara district and in the taluks of Chirakkal, Kottayam, Kurumbranad and Wynaad in the Malabar district.

" (*b*) The petitioners have been informed of the circumstances under which the areas referred to have been specifically exempted from the operation of section 9-A, except sub-sections (1) and (2) of the Act."